

About Deniliquin

Deniliquin is situated alongside the Edward River, in the southern Riverina. It is about 75 kilometres north of Echuca-Moama.

Parks with lakes are located on one side of Cressy Street, the main shopping street.

At the south-eastern end of Cressy Street is Island Sanctuary (GPS 35° 32S; 144° 58E), a wetland area alongside The Edward.

The parks and Island Sanctuary are good places for a spot of birding, the Island Sanctuary being particularly good. In recent years, Superb Parrots have taken up residence in the Island Sanctuary. Up to 120 pairs of Eastern Great Egret have nested in the Sanctuary at the same time.

Part of a Regional Park, forest about 750 metres east of Island Sanctuary, along Memorial Drive, is a good area for bush birds.

Another good birding area, accessed via Wirraway Drive, is that bordered by the cemetery, rice mill, abattoir and sale-yards (GPS 35° 33'S; 144° 56'E). Waterbirds, including waders, may be observed here. Crakes are sometimes observed at a pond opposite the rice mill. Banded Lapwing is often observed south of this area, past the cemetery.

Blake Botanical Reserve, Harfleur Street, (GPS 35° 31 25S; 144° 57 15E) is a native plant garden created around a small lagoon by the Southern Riverina Field Naturalists Club. This park displays many of the grasses, shrubs and trees which are indigenous to the Deniliquin district.

Phil Maher and the Field Naturalists Club have established an arboretum of indigenous plants about half way between Deniliquin and Mathoura (35° 41' 47S; 144° 54' 38E), just north of the Walliston Road entrance to Gulpa Island. The Diamond Firetail is often observed in this vicinity.

Nearby, the box forest at the Walliston Road entrance to Gulpa Island (35° 42' 13S; 144° 54' 08E) is also a good birding spot.

There are some good birding spots along the Cobb Highway (B75) to the north of Deniliquin, e.g. near Pretty Pine and near the Wanganella Weir. In wet years, many birds are attracted to wetlands along the B75 between Deniliquin and Hay.

Photos: iconic birds of the Island Sanctuary

Middle panel: SUPERB PARROT by Thomas Wheller

Front panel: EASTERN GREAT EGRET by Thomas Wheller



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Deniliquin birding guide



Birding spots of Deniliquin



Spot One: Island Sanctuary

Island Sanctuary (Spot One) alongside Cressy Street DENILIQUIN (GPS 35° 32'S; 144° 58'E) is a wonderful birding spot.

There is a public toilet near one of the entrances to the reserve and others in the parklands opposite the shops.

When entering the sanctuary, look for platypuses and water rats in the lagoon.

Some of the bush birds that have been sighted in the Island Sanctuary are listed in a rectangle to the right.

Lots of water birds have been sighted in the sanctuary, including Black Duck, Wood Duck, Dusky Moorhen, Little Pied Cormorant, Little Black Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Grey Teal, Royal Spoonbill, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Great Egret, Straw-necked Ibis, Australian White Ibis, Darter, Nankeen Night Heron and White-faced Heron. Birds that nest here include Darter and Great Egret.

Raptors ~ including Black Kite, Whistling Kite and Little Eagle ~ are often observed here.

The yellow form of Crimson Rosella is common. An endangered species, the Superb Parrots is often observed in the sanctuary.

There are resident populations of Eastern Grey Kangaroo and Black Wallaby.

Some bush birds of the Island Sanctuary

Peaceful Dove	Crested Pigeon
Galah	Long-billed Corella
Purple-crowned Lorikeet	Musk Lorikeet
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Superb Parrot
Crimson (Yellow) Rosella	Eastern Rosella
Red-rumped Parrot	Laughing Kookaburra
Azure Kingfisher	Sacred Kingfisher (S)
Dollarbird (S)	Rainbow Bee-eater (S)
White-browed Scrubwren	White-throated Tree-creeper
Brown Tree-creeper	Spotted Pardalote
Striated Pardalote	Red Wattlebird
Little Friarbird	Noisy Friarbird
White-plumed Honeyeater	Blue-faced Honeyeater
Varied Sittella	Crested Shrike-tit
Golden Whistler	Rufous Whistler
Grey Shrike-thrush	White-browed Woodswallow
Masked Woodswallow	Dusky Woodswallow
Olive-backed Oriole	Pied Butcherbird
Australian Magpie	Grey Fantail
Willie Wagtail	Australian Reed Warbler (S)
Silvereye	Tree Martin
Welcome Swallow	
Red-browed Finch	

(S) indicates summer migrant)

Another good area for bush birds is the forest 750 metres to the east along Memorial Drive.



Two of the entrances to the Island Sanctuary are located a few hundred metres south of Deniliquin's Visitor Information Centre, George Street.

Spot Two: Blake Botanic Reserve

A garden of plants native to the Deniliquin area has been developed off Fowler Street. Many bush birds can be observed here.

To reach the reserve, drive north-west along Cressy Street, through two roundabouts until a T-intersection is reached. Turn left into Fowler Street. After two crossroads you come to Blake Reserve (GPS 35° 31' 25"S; 144° 57' 5"E).

Local plants found here include Weeping Pittosporum, Eremophila, Senna, Old Man Saltbush, eucalypts, wattles and native grasses.

Birds to look for in this reserve include thornbills, Weebill, Silvereye and, in summer, Australian Reed Warbler.

Spot Three: wetlands

From Blake Reserve, continue along Fowler Street, turning left into Ochertyre Street when you come to a T-intersection. Continue on through a roundabout and turn right (west) neat a stadium into Wirraway Drive (Cemetery Road).

On your right is Rotary Park. This is a suitable spot for a meal break or toilet stop. A good area for waterbirds is bordered by the cemetery, rice mill, abattoir and saleyards (GPS 35° 33'S; 144° 56'E). Check out ponds in the lawn cemetery for Black-tailed Native Hen and ducks.

Crakes and Buff-banded Rail are sometimes observed at a pond opposite the rice mill.

Stop Four: Lapwing Search

If you return to Wirraway Road (Cemetery Road), drive south-west for about two kilometres looking for Banded Lapwing in paddocks on the east side of the road.

- Many ducks and waterbirds can be found on the sewage settlement ponds at the south-western end of Macauley Street. Only enter after obtaining permission and enter at your own risk.
- It is possible to observe about 70 bird species within Deniliquin during the course of a day. In summer, migratory birds may enable you to observe an even higher total.
- BirdLife Echuca District acknowledges the assistance of Thomas Wheller of Deniliquin in the preparation this leaflet. Version 2.2 June 2013